



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/830,721

Filing Date: April 30, 2001

Applicant: Schmitt, et al.

Group Art Unit: 3679

Examiner: Flemming Saether

Title: IMPROVED WELDABLE ALUMINUM STUD

Attorney Docket: GER5272 (HDP Ref. No. 0275M-000305/US)

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Preliminary Amendment Accompanying an RCE

Sir:

In response to the final rejection mailed April 17, 2003, Applicants have filed a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). With a one month extension, response is timely on or before August 18, 2003, because August 17 is a Sunday. Applicants respectfully request entry of the accompanying amendments and consideration of the following remarks.

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 3.

Remarks begin on page 6.



**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<i>Application Number</i>	09/830,721
<i>Filing Date</i>	April 30, 2001
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Klaus G. Schmitt et al.
<i>Art Unit</i>	3679
<i>Examiner Name</i>	Flemming Saether
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	GER5272 (0275M-000305/US)

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. 1.114

- a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other Petition for Request of Time

2. Miscellaneous

- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i) required)
- b. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No.02-2550.
 - i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e)
 - ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. Other Any deficiency for a fee required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17.
- b. Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
- c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print /Type)	Robert M. Siminski	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	36,007
Signature	<i>Robert M. Siminski</i>	Date	August 18, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:

Name (Print /Type)	Robert M. Siminski
Signature	<i>Robert M. Siminski</i>